AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original): An image processing method comprising the steps of:

carrying out classification of models of digital cameras into groups of predetermined level ranges according to level of a characteristic of image data due to the models of the digital cameras that obtained the image data:

carrying out setting of an image processing condition for carrying out correction according to the level range of each of the groups; and

carrying out the correction on image data obtained by a digital camera belonging to any one of the groups by using the image processing condition set therefor.

2. (original): The image processing method according to Claim 1, wherein

the characteristic includes a plurality of types and

the classification, the setting, and the correction are carried out for each of the types of the characteristic.

3. (original): The image processing method according to Claim 1, wherein the digital cameras are digital cameras built into mobile phones.

4. (original): The image processing method according to Claim 2, wherein the digital cameras are digital cameras built into mobile phones.

5. (original): An image processing apparatus comprising:

storage means for storing:

models of digital cameras classified into groups of predetermined level ranges according to level of a characteristic of image data due to the models of the digital cameras that obtained the image data;

the groups; and

image processing conditions set for carrying out correction according to the level ranges of the respective groups while relating the models, the groups, and the image processing conditions to each other;

search means for making judgment as to which of the groups a digital camera belongs to from the model of the digital camera that obtained image data to be corrected and for carrying out reading of the image processing condition set for the group that has been judged while referring to the storage means; and

correction execution means for carrying out the correction on the image data obtained by the digital camera by using the image processing condition found by the search means.

6. (original): The image processing apparatus according to Claim 5,

the characteristic including a plurality of types,

the storage means storing the models, the groups, and the image processing conditions in relation to each other for each of the types of the characteristic; and

the search means and the correction execution means carrying out the judgment, the reading, and the correction for each of the types of the characteristic.

7. (original): The image processing apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein the digital cameras are digital cameras built into mobile phones.

8. (original): The image processing apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein the digital cameras are digital cameras built into mobile phones.

9. (currently amended): A database <u>recorded on a computer readable medium</u> storing:

models of digital cameras classified into groups of predetermined level ranges according to level of a characteristic of image data due to the models of the digital cameras that obtained the image data;

the groups; and

image processing conditions set for carrying out correction according to the level ranges of the respective groups while relating the models, the groups, and the image processing conditions to each other.

10. (currently amended): The <u>medium</u><s>database</s> according to Claim 9, wherein

the characteristic includes a plurality of types and

the database stores the models, the groups and the image processing conditions in relation to each other for the respective types of the characteristic.

11. (currently amended): A program <u>recorded in a computer readable medium</u> causing a computer to execute:

search processing for making judgment as to which of the groups a digital camera that

obtained image data to be corrected belongs to from the model of the digital camera and for

carrying out reading of the image processing condition set for the group that has been judged

while referring to the database in Claim 9; and

correction execution processing for carrying out the correction on the image data

obtained by the digital camera by using the image processing condition found through the search

processing.

12. (currently amended): A program recorded in a computer readable medium causing a

computer to execute:

search processing for making judgment as to which of the groups a digital camera that

obtained image data to be corrected belongs to for each of the types of the characteristic from the

model of the digital camera and for carrying out reading of the image processing condition set

for the group that has been judged while referring to the database in Claim 10; and

correction execution processing for carrying out the correction on the image data

obtained by the digital camera by using the image processing condition found through the search

processing for each of the types.

13. (new): The image processing method according to Claim 1, wherein each

predetermined level range corresponds to an exclusively different range of the level of the

characteristic of the image data.

14. (new): The image processing apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein each predetermined level range corresponds to an exclusively different range of the level of the characteristic of the image data.

15. (new): The database according to Claim 9, wherein each predetermined level range corresponds to an exclusively different range of the level of the characteristic of the image data.

16. (new): The image processing method according to Claim 1, wherein the characteristic of the image is one of color, tone, sharpness or noise.

17. (new): The image processing apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein the characteristic of the image is one of color, tone, sharpness or noise.

18. (new): The medium according to Claim 9, wherein the characteristic of the image is one of color, tone, sharpness or noise.

19. (new): The method according to claim 2, wherein the classification of models comprises classification into one group, digital cameras of different models.

20. (new): The method according to claim 19, wherein classification of models includes classification within one group, digital cameras of different manufacturers.

21. (new): The method according to claim 19, wherein each model can fall into different

classifications dependent on the characteristic.